

report states minorities have been adversely affected in broadcast employment and in training opportunities. This is why I believe — I believe in further expansion of such a service as low-power FM. Thank you.

(Applause.)

AUDIENCE MEMBER: Chairman Powell, and Members of the Commission, as well as the other distinguished panel guests. Thank you for being here today, and thank you for extending the opportunity for us to speak with you past 9:30.

My name is Shawn Zacharia (phonetic). I'm the Division Director for the March of Dimes, and I would like to take this opportunity to express how supportive KENS-5 has been to our organization throughout the years.

KENS-5 has been vital to helping us accomplish our mission, and that is improving the health of babies by preventing birth defects and infant mortality. They have demonstrated their support by sponsoring Walk America.

Walk America is our cornerstone fundraising event. And here in San Antonio, our budget is \$301,000, so 78 percent of our budget is made on Walk America. So because of KENS-5's help in

supporting Walk America, March of Dimes is able to support our lifesaving programs and research that benefit the San Antonio community. And this is accomplished locally by programs of community service advocacy, education and public and health professionals, as well as grants.

Part of KENS-5's support includes providing on-air personalities to help us lead our campaigns. Last year we were very fortunate to have Bill Taylor serve as an honorary Walk America Chairman. KENS-5 was very receptive in helping and starting the KENS-5 Walk America team. Bill assisted us tremendously in this effort.

In addition to support of Walk America, Wendy Rigby has always been by amenable when we've had news story ideas. When she covers a story for us, she does an exceptional job by making every story interesting and worthwhile to the viewers.

Her stories have helped educate viewers about what they can do to decrease the incidences of birth defects by focusing on topics, such as folic acid, and the growing problem of premature births. And then finally, the creative department makes us feel like they're part of their community.

And I know I just have a couple of seconds, but I'd like to also briefly point out how supportive Clear Channel has been to us as well. They, too, provide honor personalities to support our events such as Walk America and Star Chefs. They also provide AV equipment. And that AV equipment when it's donated to us, we don't have to purchase it, which helps us save money and that money goes towards research.

And I would like to pay particular attention to two people, Tim Kieslings (phonetic). He's the Promotions Director for Clear Channel radio as well as Tom Glade, the Market Manager for Clear Channel radio. They have provided us with expert media advice, not just with their stations, but as our community as a whole helping us within March of Dimes do better community service and strategically do our marketing for this community. And I thank you for your time this evening.

(Applause.)

AUDIENCE MEMBER: Chairman Powell, Commissioners, I am Mark Rodriguez, a small business owner from Austin, Texas and also Chairman of the Greater Austin Hispanic Chamber of Congress. I'm here to report on a successful program in Austin, Texas.

We partner with KXAN-TV in Austin, Texas. We co-produce a community survey which is actually a business tool. We will co-analyze the survey results, which is actually market intelligence. The success of the Hispanic and minority entrepreneur is our number one goal as an organization. This program is like going to business school for free. We, we encourage more partners — partnerships like this in communities across the country. Stay tuned. We're going back to work. Thank you.

(Applause.)

AUDIENCE MEMBER: Good evening. Thank you all. I'm John Champaign (phonetic), citizen and proponent of Walter Cronkite draft for president. What if the people really owned the airwaves? Then those who use the airwaves for profit would pay compensation to the owners, the people, for the use of the people's property?

(Applause.)

When the people judge that what's broadcast is in the public interest, the people will give a rebate or maybe even pay for the broadcast, the production. When the people judge that what's broadcast is already over broadcast, is titillating, is

serving the private interest of those who seek profit, then maybe the, the fee will go up, and we'll see less of what we don't want to see on the air.

Let's really have the people own the airwaves. And let the people sculpt the use of the airwaves by saying what is serving the public interest and not let those who want to use it for profit decide that their bottom line is equating to the public interest. Thank you.

(Applause.)

AUDIENCE MEMBER: I want to thank you for the opportunity. I finally got to be an anchorman.

(Laughter.)

I'm Ernest Bronny (phonetic), a senior citizen who listens to local radio. I used to watch TV but a number of years ago I turned it off. I didn't like the direction it was going and what was coming off of programming. The news media always seemed to be the same. There were issues that I was interested in that never got on the news media.

I listen to KTSA. This is not a commercial. I'm a senior citizen. I picked that station because of what it does for me. I belong to several nonprofit organizations here. I'm with the San

Antonio Audubon Society and the Mitchell Lake Wetland Society. I'm the annual compilant for the Christmas Bird Count. KTSA has been very supportive of us. They've interviewed me on the radio to promote the Christmas Bird Count and other events and activities we've been involved with.

I get many, many issues, current issues the community issues, that they bring up for people to discuss. And it's give and take. And they give both sides. One of the most recent ones that I'm really proud of them in doing is they brought to the floor the issue of the EPA and the ozone and the governmental agencies that were pushing for tailpipe emissions control. And they were able to show repeatedly, and brought people forward with evidence that this doesn't work and it's a rip off on the public, and for them I thank you, particularly a senior citizen on a limited income — fixed income, that would have been more money out of my pocket, which they showed was not justified.

I want to compliment KTSA on their weather coverage particularly during extreme adverse weather. In the floods of 1998 and two years after that and more recently, they actually terminated all their current programming and went strictly to weather reports and

gave the community an up-to-date running account through the whole storm of what was going on to help the people and protect the people in the interest of the people. They should be commended for that. Another area is that this part of Texas, South Texas, has a lot of gun owners, a lot of hunters. I'm a volunteer instructor for Texas Parks and Wildlife. I teach... (inaudible) ...education. I get a lot of questions about gun control issues. KTSA brings people in who present the pro-gun side. How much of the news media will you find giving the pro-gun side? You get plenty of the anti-gun side, very little. National media, you won't hear anything pro-gun on that. KTSA gives both sides, lets people chime in and call in and talk about and discuss it.

And the last thing that may sound kind of trivial to most people, but I appreciate the traffic reports that they put on every 15 minutes. If you're driving around San Antonio and do a lot of driving like I do, you're going to appreciate that. It saves me a lot of gas. It saves me a lot of waiting and waiting in traffic jams, and probably has saved me some accidents by being able to take alternate routes because they alerted me as to what's going on.

So, I thank you very much for taking the time to listen to it all, and I certainly appreciate you making me an anchor man. Good night.

(Applause.)

CHAIRMAN POWELL: And that's the rest of the story.

(Laughter.)

That was our last speaker in the open-mic. I would like to ask my colleagues if any of them have any final comments for this evening.

COMMISSIONER COPPS: I just want to thank everybody. I think the hour is late. This is obviously an involved and caring —

(Audience: Can't hear you.)

This is obviously an involved and a caring and a concerned community, who went through a great deal of trouble to share a lot of information with us this evening. Our job now is to take it back and make sure it's part of our deliberations on license renewal and localism and on all the other items on our agenda.

I want to thank the panelists. I want to thank you people who took the time, and waited a long time to get in here to help us out. I think it's been a good evening. I never go to one of these where I

don't learn a lot and I learned a lot this evening and I'm grateful for it.

(Applause.)

COMMISSIONER ADELSTEIN: I'd just echo that by saying that I think the people of San Antonio have a lot of wisdom, and that we need to take it back to Washington. I want to thank my colleagues for being out here and sticking — sticking with this. It's really a historic thing to get all five of us together like this.

We miss our families, but we think this has been, I think, very worthwhile. I've learned a lot. It's like a giant ascertainment effort, and I appreciate the fact the broadcasters stayed here and everybody on the panel stayed here, because you heard a lot of deep concerns, and you've heard a lot of good compliments, and I think you need to take that back to and share it with your colleagues, do more of what you're hearing good things about and address the concerns that you heard.

So I just want to thank everybody for sticking with it to the end here.

(Applause.)

CHAIRMAN POWELL: This has been a

tremendously vigorous hearing, and it shouldn't be any other way, I think, in a democracy, and we really appreciate the people of San Antonio for providing us the opportunity to be in their fair city. And we appreciate all of you for staying through a long evening and night to give us the kind of information, data and record that we will need to make thoughtful and substantive judgments.

We're thankful to you. We're grateful for you. We're humbled by the trust you put in us to serve the public interest, and we will continue to do that to the best of our abilities.

Thank you very much, and thank you for joining us here at the Federal Communications Commission. This meeting is adjourned.

Thank you.

(Applause.)

(Hearing adjourns at 11:00 p.m.)

